NOVEMBER 2022

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SENATOR GLENN WAKAI

Kalihi, Mapunapuna, Airport, Salt Lake, Aliamanu, Foster Village, Hickam, Pearl Harbor, and portions of Aiea and Pearl City

Update on Defueling Red Hill

A lively discussion on the purity of Oahu's drinking water swirled during a Red Hill Fuel Tank Advisory Committee (FTAC) meeting yesterday. The Navy updated the public on its progress on defueling its 80 year old tanks by the summer of 2024.

Members of the FTAC asked why the defueling cannot happen sooner and pointed to a lack of communication with the public. It was pointed out that the Navy had taken numerous steps with no community input.

The Navy acknowledged the comments. The Admiral in charge emphasized his commitment to being transparent and said the Navy's goal is to "not allow one drop" of fuel to leak into the aquifer, as it proceeds towards a full shutdown of the underground tanks.

The Navy's closure plan was submitted to the Hawaii Department of Health on November 1. It is still uncertain what will happen to the tanks and pipes after defueling occurs.

For more information, click <u>here</u>.



Improvements at Nimitz Elementary



Last month, funding for Nimitz Elementary School was released to design a new Transition Center and other campus improvements. With about 99% of its student population coming from military families, having this center to assist incoming keiki transition in will help with student success and learning outcomes.